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Optimization of Plate Growth Media for

To capture the most accurate total, viable cell counts, were plated on a variety of media. The use of different media types provided useful information on the viability and growth properties of colonies, leading to more accurate cell counts. By using several types of media, we were able to identify the formulation that best promoted the growth of

Agar Media Formulation for

Place stir bar in beaker and measure out to ca. of final desired volume solution. Individually measure and add chemicals listed below to the solution while stirring continuously, per liter:

Check pH of the solution to ensure it is . If required, adjust to with either Add and bring to final volume minus any , with . Autoclave.

After autoclaving add:

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Place stir bar in beaker and measure out [redacted] of final desired volume [redacted] solution. Individually measure and add chemicals listed below to the solution while stirring continuously, per liter:

[redacted]

Check pH of the solution to ensure it is [redacted] If required, adjust to [redacted] with either [redacted] Add [redacted] and bring to final volume minus any [redacted] Autoclave.

After autoclaving add:

([redacted]

[redacted]

Place stir bar in beaker and measure out [redacted] of final desired volume [redacted] solution. Individually measure and add chemicals listed below to the solution while stirring continuously, per liter:

[redacted]

[redacted]

Check pH of the solution to ensure it is [redacted] If required, adjust to [redacted] with either [redacted] Add [redacted] and bring to final volume minus any r[redacted] Autoclave.

After autoclaving add:

[redacted]

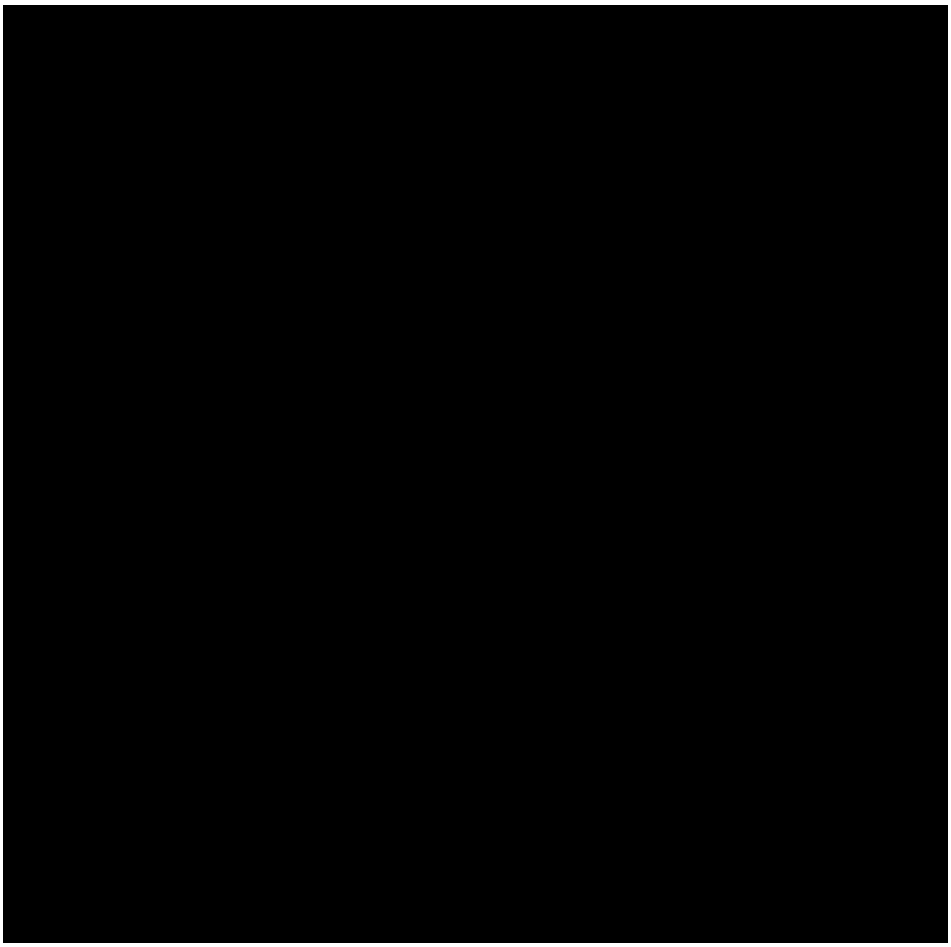
Preparation of [redacted] for Viability Studies:

Place stir bar in beaker and measure out [redacted] of final desired volume [redacted] Individually measure and add chemicals listed below to the solution while stirring continuously, per liter:

[redacted] Autoclave.

[redacted] were grown on [redacted] plates supplemented [redacted] Total, viable cell counts were based on samples taken and plated at 24 hour intervals during a 5 day fermentation period. [redacted] The [redacted] formulations gave lower viable cell counts than [redacted] and the [redacted] formulation was least optimal for promoting growth of viable colonies.

[redacted]



Sensitivity limit

The sensitivity limit for standard dilution plating procedures for total viable cell counts was based on prevailing acceptance that the Limit of Quantification (LOQ) is colony forming units (CFU) and the Limit of Detection (LOD) is per mL for spread plates. The CFU/mL for grown on was assessed within a range of Viable colonies were observed at both LOQ and LOD limits.